

AMENDMENT

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraph [0120] with the following substitute paragraph:

[0120] A bioconjugate containing an inactive scrambled sequence of the above A-domain peptide CTVDLKFGIKNIEAV (SEQ ID NO: 219), was similarly synthesized and was conjugated to dextran and used as the sham control in the *in vitro* assays described below. Synthetic peptides were added to phosphate buffered saline (PBS) with 1.5 mM EDTA at a final concentration of 20 mM. The pH was adjusted to 8.0-8.5 with TEA. Methacryloylated dextran (2mM) was then added to the reaction mix and the pH was adjusted again to pH 8.0-8.5 with TEA. All solutions were maintained under inert conditions to minimize disulfide bond formation. Crosslinking was allowed to proceed at room temperature for two hours. The reaction mixture was then dialyzed against deionized water in 25,000 MWCO membrane to remove any unreacted or disulfide-bonded peptide. The purified dextran/peptide conjugates were recovered by lyophilization.

Please replace paragraph [0126] with the following substitute paragraph:

[0126] To assess the effect of these peptide-dextran bioconjugates on inflammatory cell adhesion, the following *in vitro* ICAM-1-mediated leukocyte cell adhesion assay was performed. HUVEC monolayers were established in 24-well culture dishes. At 24h prior to the assay, normal culture media were replaced with medium containing TNF- α (10 ng/ml). Following the 24h incubation period, each sample well received a medium change. Treated sample groups received medium containing 6% dextran bioconjugate (dextran conjugated to the A domain peptide CNAFKILVVITDGEK (SEQ ID NO: 124)). Untreated control samples received normal medium. Negative sham control samples received medium containing dextran conjugate with a scrambled A domain sequence (KCENGADFTKIIVLV (SEQ ID NO: 220))). All samples were then incubated for 30 min prior to the adhesion assay. Medium was removed from all wells following the 30 min incubation and replaced with medium containing U937 monocytic cells (1

$\times 10^5$ /ml). All samples were then incubated for another 30 min. After this incubation period, samples were washed three times with PBS to remove non-adherent monocytes. The samples were then fixed, and an average number of adherent monocytes per 100x microscopic field was determined for each sample group. Statistical comparisons between sample groups ($n = 4$ replicate wells per group) were performed using a student's t-test.

Please delete the previously submitted Sequence Listing, and replace it with the substitute Sequence Listing filed electronically concurrently herewith through EFS-Web.